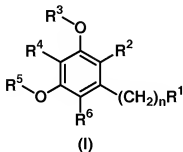


a.) Amendment to the Claims

1. (Previously presented and withdrawn) A method of inhibiting a heat shock protein 90 family protein, which comprises administering to a patient, in need thereof, an effective amount of a benzene derivative represented by formula (I):



{ wherein

n represents an integer of 0 to 10;

R<sup>1</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy, a cyano, a carboxy, a nitro, a halogen, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkynyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy carbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted arylsulfonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, -CONR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup> (wherein R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup>, which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, a

substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl or a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group together with the adjacent nitrogen atom),  $-NR^9R^{10}$  [wherein  $R^9$  and  $R^{10}$ , which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylsulfonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or  $-CONR^{11}R^{12}$  (wherein  $R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$  have the same meanings as the above  $R^7$  and  $R^8$ , respectively), or  $R^9$  and  $R^{10}$  form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group together with the adjacent nitrogen atom], or  $-OR^{13}$  (wherein  $R^{13}$  represents a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl);

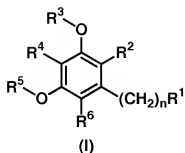
$R^2$  represents a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group (but excepting a substituted or unsubstituted pyrazolyl);

$R^3$  and  $R^5$ , which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylsulfonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted arylsulfonyl, a carbamoyl, a sulfamoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower

alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted di-lower alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-carbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl or a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl; and

$R^4$  and  $R^6$ , which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy, a halogen, a cyano, a nitro, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkynyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, an amino, a lower alkylamino, a di-lower alkylamino, a carboxy, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group (but excepting a substituted or unsubstituted pyrazolyl), a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl}, or a prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Previously Presented and withdrawn) A method of inhibiting a heat shock protein 90 family protein, which comprises administering to a patient, in need thereof, an effective amount of a benzene derivative represented by general formula (I):



(wherein

n represents an integer of 0 to 10;

R<sup>1</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy, a cyano, a carboxy, a nitro, a halogen, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkynyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy carbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted arylsulfonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, -CONR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup> (wherein R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup>, which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl or a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl, or R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group together with the adjacent nitrogen atom), -NR<sup>9</sup>R<sup>10</sup> [wherein R<sup>9</sup> and R<sup>10</sup>, which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or

unsubstituted lower alkylsulfonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl, or -CONR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup> (wherein R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup> have the same meanings as the above R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup>, respectively), or R<sup>9</sup> and R<sup>10</sup> form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group together with the adjacent nitrogen atom], or -OR<sup>13</sup> (wherein R<sup>13</sup> represents a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl);

R<sup>2</sup> represents a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group (but excepting a substituted or unsubstituted pyrazolyl);

R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>5</sup>, which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylsulfonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted arylsulfonyl, a carbamoyl, a sulfamoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted di-lower alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-carbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl or a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl; and

R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>6</sup>, which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy, a halogen, a cyano, a nitro, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkynyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, an amino, a lower alkylamino, a di-lower alkylamino, a carboxy, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group (but excepting a substituted or unsubstituted pyrazolyl), a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. (Previously Presented and withdrawn) The method according to claim 2, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy, a cyano, a carboxy, a nitro, a halogen, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkynyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyloxy, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted arylsulfonyl, -CONR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup> or -NR<sup>9</sup>R<sup>10</sup>.

4. (Previously Presented and withdrawn) The method according to claim 2, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkynyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, a substituted or

unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy carbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl,  $-\text{CONR}^7\text{R}^8$ , or  $-\text{NR}^9\text{R}^{10}$ .

5. (Previously Presented and withdrawn) The method according to claim 3 or 4, wherein  $\text{R}^2$  is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic heterocyclic group.

6. (Previously Presented and withdrawn) The method according to claim 3 or 4, wherein  $\text{R}^2$  is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl.

7. (Previously Presented and withdrawn) The method according to claim 3 or 4, wherein  $\text{R}^2$  is a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl.

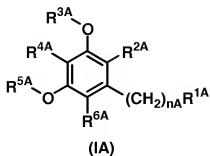
8. (Previously Presented and withdrawn) The method according to claim 3 or 4, wherein  $\text{R}^2$  is a substituted or unsubstituted furyl.

9. (Previously Presented and withdrawn) The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein  $\text{R}^4$  is a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy, or a halogen.

10. (Previously Presented and withdrawn) The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein  $R^3$  and  $R^5$ , which may be the same or different, each are a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted di-lower alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy carbonyl, or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-carbonyl.

11. (Currently Amended and withdrawn) The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  are hydrogen atoms.

12. (Previously Presented) A benzene derivative represented by general formula (IA):



[wherein  $R^{2A}$  represents a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl;



$R^{3A}$  and  $R^{5A}$ , which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a carbamoyl, a sulfamoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylsulfonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted di-lower alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy carbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-carbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, or a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl;

$R^{4A}$  represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy, or a halogen;

$nA$  represents an integer of 0 to 5;

provided that;

(1) when  $nA$  is 0,

then  $R^{1A}$  is a hydrogen atom, a methyl, a hydroxy, a methoxy, a carboxyl, a methoxycarbonyl, a carbamoyl,  $-\text{CONHCH}_3$ ,  $-\text{CON}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ,  $-\text{CONHCH}_2\text{Ph}$  (wherein Ph represents a phenyl),  $-\text{CH}(\text{OCH}_3)\text{Ph}$  (wherein Ph has the same meaning as that defined above), a propionyl, a benzoyl, a dioxolanyl, a substituted or unsubstituted vinyl, or a substituted or unsubstituted prop-1-en-1-yl;

and when  $R^{1A}$  is a hydrogen atom,

then  $R^{6A}$  is a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl;

when R<sup>1A</sup> is a methyl, a hydroxy, a methoxy, a carboxyl, a methoxycarbonyl, a carbamoyl, -CONHCH<sub>3</sub>, -CON(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, -CONHCH<sub>2</sub>Ph (wherein Ph has the same meaning as that defined above), a propionyl, a benzoyl, a dioxolanyl, a substituted or unsubstituted vinyl, or a substituted or unsubstituted prop-1-en-1-yl,

then R<sup>6A</sup> is a halogen;

(2) when nA is an integer of 1 to 5,

then R<sup>1A</sup> is a hydroxy, a cyano, a carboxyl, a halogen, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkynyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy carbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted arylsulfonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, -CONR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup> (wherein R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup>, which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl or a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl, or R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group together with the adjacent nitrogen atom), -NR<sup>9</sup>R<sup>10</sup> (wherein R<sup>9</sup> and R<sup>10</sup>, which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylsulfonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or

unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl), or -OR<sup>13</sup> (wherein R<sup>13</sup> represents a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl), R<sup>6A</sup> is a hydrogen atom, a halogen, a cyano, a nitro, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkynyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, an amino, a lower alkylamino, a di-lower alkylamino, a carboxy, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy-carbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group (but excepting a substituted or unsubstituted pyrazolyl), a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-alkyl;

and provided that;

(i) when R<sup>3A</sup> and R<sup>5A</sup> are isopropyl,

then R<sup>6A</sup> is not a hydrogen atom;

(ii) when R<sup>3A</sup> and R<sup>5A</sup> are methyl,

then R<sup>6A</sup> is not a group selected from a hydrogen atom, a bromo, an ethyl, a 1-hydroxyethyl, a 1-(dimethylamino)ethyl, a vinyl and a carboxy;

(iii) when  $R^{4A}$  and  $R^{6A}$  are hydrogen atoms, and when  $R^{3A}$  and  $R^{5A}$  are the same and are tert-butyl or benzyl,

then  $-(CH_2)_{nA}R^{1A}$  is not a group selected from a hydroxymethyl and a 2-chloroallyl;

(iv) when  $R^{4A}$  and  $R^{6A}$  are hydrogen atoms, and when  $R^{3A}$  is a benzyl or an acetyl and  $R^{5A}$  is a methyl,

or when  $R^{3A}$ ,  $R^{4A}$  and  $R^{6A}$  are hydrogen atoms, and when  $R^{5A}$  is a methyl,

then  $-(CH_2)_{nA}R^{1A}$  is not a group selected from a 2-(acetylamino)propyl and a 2-(substituted lower alkanoylamino)propyl;

(v) when  $R^{3A}$ ,  $R^{4A}$  and  $R^{5A}$  are hydrogen atoms, and when  $R^{6A}$  is a carboxy, or when  $R^{4A}$ ,  $R^{5A}$  and  $R^{6A}$  are hydrogen atoms, and when  $R^{3A}$  is a methyl,

then  $-(CH_2)_{nA}R^{1A}$  is not an n-pentyl;

(vi) when  $R^{3A}$  and  $R^{4A}$  are hydrogen atoms,  $R^{5A}$  is a methyl, and  $R^{6A}$  is an ethyl,

then  $-(CH_2)_{nA}R^{1A}$  is not an n-propyl;

(vii) when  $R^{3A}$  is a methyl,  $R^{4A}$  and  $R^{6A}$  are hydrogen atoms, and  $R^{5A}$  is a 4-methoxybenzyl,

then  $-(CH_2)_{nA}R^{1A}$  is not a group selected from  $-(CH_2)_3CH=CH_2$  and  $-(CH_2)_5CH=CH_2$ ;

(viii) when  $R^{3A}$ ,  $R^{4A}$ ,  $R^{5A}$  and  $R^{6A}$  are hydrogen atoms, and when -  
 $(CH_2)_{nA}R^{1A}$  is

(a) an n-pentyl,

then  $R^{2A}$  is not a 2,4-dihydroxy-6-pentylphenyl,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

13. (Previously Presented) The benzene derivative according to claim 12, wherein  $R^{2A}$  is a substituted phenyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. (Previously Presented) The benzene derivative according to claim 12, wherein  $R^{2A}$  is unsubstituted phenyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. (Original) The benzene derivative according to any of claims 12 to 14, wherein  $R^{3A}$  and  $R^{5A}$ , which may be the same or different, each are a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, a substituted or unsubstituted aroyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted di-lower alkylaminocarbonyl, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxycarbonyl, or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic-carbonyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. (Original) The benzene derivative according to any of claims 12 to 14, wherein  $R^{3A}$ ,  $R^{4A}$  and  $R^{5A}$  are hydrogen atoms, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

17. (Original) The benzene derivative according to any of claims 12 to 14, wherein  $nA$  is an integer of 1 to 5, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

18. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising, as an active ingredient, the benzene derivative according to any of claims 12 to 14 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claims 19-26 (Cancelled).

27. (Withdrawn and Previously Presented) A method of inhibiting a heat shock protein 90 family protein, which comprises administering said benzene derivative according to any one of claims 1-4 or 12-14.

Claims 28-41 (Cancelled).

42. (Previously Presented) A method of inhibiting a heat shock protein 90 family protein, which comprises administering said prodrug according to claim 1.

43. (Previously Presented) A method of inhibiting a heat shock protein 90 family protein, which comprises administering said pharmaceutically acceptable salt according to any one of claims 1-4 or 12-14.